

1 **1. (Amended)** In a computer system having a video display device,
2 the video display device having a screen, a method comprising [the steps of]:
3 providing a plurality of controls on the screen of the video display device;
4 identifying a control group, the control group being comprised of at least
5 two controls associated in a data structure;
6 representing the control group with a single status indicator in the data
7 structure; and
8 directing the activation of the controls of the control group by storing an
9 active value in the single status indicator.

B1 SUB 10
11 **2. (Amended)** The method of claim 1 wherein the computer system
12 further includes a cursor which is displayed on the screen of the video display
13 device, the method further comprising [the steps of]:
14 identifying a location on the screen that the cursor points to; and
15 for each control of the control group, identifying a control position, the
16 control position defining a location on the screen for the activated control,
17 determining a control distance, the control distance defining a control connecting
18 path which connects the identified location with the control position, calculating a
19 control angle, the control angle being an angle formed between the control
20 connecting path and a last direction of cursor movement path, and calculating a
21 weighted distance.

1 3. An apparatus for activating and deactivating a control grouping, the
2 control grouping being comprised of at least two controls and being displayed on a
3 screen of a video display device of a computer system, the apparatus including:

4 a memory formed within the computer system; and

5 a control grouping identifier contained within the memory, wherein the
6 control grouping identifier has an active state and an inactive state and wherein the
7 control grouping identifier represents the controls of the control grouping.

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9 4. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the control grouping identifier is a
10 bit of a control word.

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12 Please add new claims 5-8 as follows:

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14 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising directing the activation of
15 individual controls by storing an active value in a status indicator for each control.

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17 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising directing the deactivation
18 of the controls of the control group by masking the active value in the single status
19 indicator.

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21 7. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
22 directing the deactivation of the controls of the control group by masking
23 the active value in the single status indicator; and
24 directing the activation of individual controls by storing an active value in a
25 status indicator for each control.

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cont.

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2 8. The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the apparatus further includes an
3 individual control identifier contained within the memory, and wherein the control
4 identifier has an active state and an inactive state.

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